

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Claims 4-6, 8-10 and 40-52 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 7 and 11-39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 40-51 have been withdrawn from consideration due to a restriction requirement. New claim 52 have been added which is claim 7 rewritten in independent form. Since new claim 52 includes all of the limitations of original claims 1-3 and 7, the new claim does not introduce new matter into to the application. Dependent claims 4, 6 and 8-10 have been amended to be dependent on new base claim 52.

Applicant notes the Examiner's consideration of the art cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 23, 2001 as acknowledged in the Office Action Summary. Applicant further notes that the Examiner has not acknowledged of Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified priority document. Clarification of the status of the claim for priority is requested.

Objection to Claim 11

Claims 11 was objected to for various informalities. The claim has been canceled, thereby rendering the objection moot.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 9-12, 17-20, 22, 25, 30, 31, 33, 35, 36, 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Del Castillo (U.S. Patent No. 6,742,188). Claims 1, 2, and 11-39 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection as to these claims moot. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended to be dependent on new claim 52 which incorporates original claims

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1-3 and 7. The Examiner objected to claims 7 and 8, and indicated that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten independent form and including all of the limitations of the claim. Claim 7 was dependent on claim 3 which was dependent on claim 2 which was dependent on claim 1. New claim 52 rewritten claim 7 and includes all of the limitations of claims 1-3 and 7. Accordingly, claims 9 and 10 which are dependent on base claim 52 should be in allowable condition. It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Del Castillo be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 13-16, 21, 23, 24, 26-29, 32, 34 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Del Castillo (U.S. Patent No. 6,742,188) in view of Allport (U.S. Patent No. 6,097,441). All of the rejected claims have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection of the claims moot.

Conclusion

Accordingly, it is urged that the application, as now amended, is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

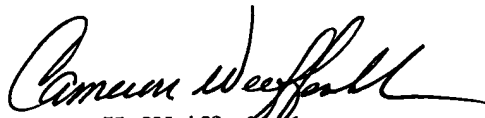
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and due in

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connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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